



Serial No.: 10/822,100
 Confirmation No.: 1720
 Applicant: Giovanni Prodi et al.
 Atty. Ref.: 12693.0027.00US00

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The present invention therefore relates to a method for controlling the idling speed of a torque-controlled internal combustion engine as ~~set out in claim 1 and, preferably, in any one of the subsequent claims dependent directly or indirectly on claim 1 described in detail herein.~~

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for controlling the speed of a torque-controlled internal combustion engine ~~[[(1)]]~~; the method comprising the steps of:
~~regulating in which the generation of the drive torque to a drive shaft ~~[[(15)]]~~ is regulated by actuators ~~[[(10, 13)]]~~ which are controlled from a control value ~~[[(C_{ist})]]~~ of the instantaneous torque and by a control value ~~[[(C_{pre})]]~~ of the predicted torque; ~~the method providing for the calculation of calculating the objective value ~~[[(n_{obb})]]~~ of the speed;~~
~~and the generation of generating the control value ~~[[(C_{ist})]]~~ of the instantaneous torque by means of a first feedback control loop ~~[[(20)]]~~ which uses as input the objective value ~~[[(n_{obb})]]~~ of the speed;~~
~~the method being characterized in that calculating an objective value ~~[[(RC_{obb})]]~~ of the torque reserve is calculated;~~
~~calculating an objective value ~~[[(Cp_{obb})]]~~ of the potential torque by adding the control value of the instantaneous torque generated by the first control loop to the objective value of the torque reserve; is calculated on the basis of the objective value ~~[[(RC_{obb})]]~~ of the torque reserve, and~~~~